



# สมาคมสวิสส์ กรุงเทพฯ

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## Members and Date

The Swiss Society Bangkok was founded on November 1, 1931, by the following Swiss nationals residing in Thailand:

O. Adler	R Baer	Ch. A. Beguelin	H. Braendli	J. A. Degen	
Dr. A.M. Escher		H. P. Fricker	F. Heller	J. A. Illi	Mme M. Maire
J. J. Mottet		E. Peter-Peter	A. Rochat	C. W. Schlaepfer.	A. Schmid
W. Schoop		K.Siegenthaler	A. F. Somm	Th. Stuedler	H. Stuessi
A. Tanner		K. Vogelsanger			

## Introduction

The Swiss Society Bangkok, founded in 1931, is a non-political, non-profit association of Swiss Nationals and friends of Switzerland residing in Thailand. The purpose of the organization is to promote friendship and contact among the Swiss Community, arrange social and cultural activities, and give benevolent assistance in the case of unusual need by a resident fellow-countryman. In addition, the Swiss Society will act as a liaison between the local Swiss Community and the Swiss Embassy and/or organizations in Switzerland which act in the interest of Swiss expatriates. It will support the interests of the Swiss School and will assist in organizing National Day Celebrations. Full, voting membership is restricted to Swiss Nationals and their spouses, although associate, non-voting membership may be held by a number not to exceed 50% of the total number of full members.

The Swiss Society Bangkok is incorporated under the laws of Thailand as follows:

License No. 1/2510 of the ministry of education dated January 3, 1967.

Registration No. 924 of the Central Investigation Division of the Police Department dated February 7, 1967.

Registered office: 280 Charoen Krung Road, Amphur Samphanthavongse, Bangkok Metropolis.

14<sup>th</sup> October 2017: Includes the amendments of 21.02.2003, 09.03.2007 and 27.11.2009

# **Rules of The Swiss Society Bangkok**

In accordance with the Civil and Commercial Code of Thailand, the Thai text of these rules will govern in the event of discrepancies existing between the Thai and English versions.

## **ARTICLE I - GENERAL**

### ***Section 1 - Name***

The Society shall be called the SWISS SOCIETY BANGKOK.

### ***Section 2 - Aims***

The aims of the Society are non-political. The Society intends to promote friendship and companionship among the Swiss and friends of Switzerland in Thailand by arranging social activities of a non-political nature.

### ***Section 3 - Headquarters***

The registered headquarters are located at No. 35, North Wireless Road, Lumpini Sub-District, Patumwan District, Bangkok.  
The location of the Society shall be Bangkok.

### ***Section 4 - Society Funds***

The funds of the Society shall be provided by entrance fees, subscriptions, contributions, donations and subsidies. Donations and subsidies received by the Society for a specific purpose shall be used accordingly, but the use of other income and funds shall be left to the discretion of the Committee, except as provided for under Art V, Sec. 2.

### ***Section 5 - Society Year***

The Society year shall be based on the calendar year, i.e. January 1 to December 31.

## **ARTICLE II – MEMBERSHIP**

### ***Section 1 - Type of Members***

Members of the Society shall be either Ordinary Members, Associate Members or Honorary Members.

- a) Ordinary Members:
- b) Any person of legal age holding Swiss citizenship and his/her spouse shall be eligible for membership with full voting rights.
- c) Associate Members:
- d) Any non-Swiss of legal age, expressing the wish to become an Associate Member, shall be eligible for membership without voting rights. The number of Associate Members is restricted to 50% of the number of Ordinary Members.
- e) Honorary Members:
- f) Any member may be elected an Honorary Member. The resident Swiss Ambassador and spouse shall enjoy the privilege of being Honorary Members.

### ***Section 2 - Procedures for Election of New Members***

A candidate for Ordinary Membership or Associate Membership shall be nominated and seconded by two different Ordinary or Honorary Members, and shall be proposed for acceptance at the next meeting of the Committee.

Associate members will not be certified without personal interviews.

Honorary Members shall be proposed by the Committee and elected at a General Meeting.

Upon election of an Ordinary or Associate Member, the Secretary shall immediately notify the new member of the entrance and subscription fees, payable to the Treasurer within one month. This being accomplished, the member shall be deemed elected.

### ***Section 3 - Loss of Membership***

Any member who has failed to meet his/her financial obligations towards the Society after two written reminders have been sent to him/her, shall lose his/her membership by a majority vote of the Committee Members, and shall not be re-accredited within one year following his/her expulsion, subject to Art. V, Sec. 6.

Membership ceases automatically in case of death or resignation. Any member wishing to resign shall submit his/her resignation in writing to the Secretary.

## **ARTICLE III - FEES AND SUBSCRIPTIONS**

### ***Section 1 - Entrance Fees and Subscriptions***

Entrance and subscriptions fees shall be approved by the General Assembly and may be revised from time to time according to the Society's needs. Proposals for revisions shall be submitted by the Committee to the General Meeting for approval in accordance with Art. VI, Sec. 3.

Subscriptions are payable within three months following the Annual General Meeting. Honorary Members shall be absolved from paying entrance and subscription fees.

### ***Section 2 - Refunds***

Entrance and subscription fees, once paid, shall not be refunded. Pro-rata payment of the yearly subscription is permitted only in the event of absence from Thailand for a period exceeding three months; and written, advance notice to the Secretary of the Society is required.

## **ARTICLE IV – COMMITTEE**

### ***Section 1 - Committee Membership***

The affairs of the Society shall be vested in a Committee of at least 6, and not more than 15 members, consisting of a President, a Vice-President, a Secretary, a Treasurer plus members who are elected in accordance with Art. IV, Sec. 2.

### ***Section 2 - Committee Election***

Any Ordinary or Honorary Member shall be eligible to be elected a member of the Committee.

Only a Swiss citizen shall be eligible to be President.

Committee Members shall be elected by the members present at the Annual General Meeting, and only those who have obtained an absolute majority of the votes shall be certified. If, after the first ballot, no candidate has obtained an absolute majority, a second vote shall be taken, and the relative majority shall then decide. In the event of a tie in the second ballot, the decision shall be drawn by lot.

The Committee shall hold office for a period of three<sup>1</sup> year or until their successors have been elected and assume control. Members of the Committee may be re-elected.

The Committee shall have the authority to fill any vacancy occurring in the Committee following the Annual General Meeting by appointing a replacement from among members of the Society.

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<sup>1</sup> Amendment of 26<sup>th</sup> November 2009: Change period of one year to period of three years

### ***Section 3 - Suspension of Committee Members***

Any Member of the Committee absent from three consecutive Committee meetings without justifiable cause shall cease to be a member thereof, and the Committee shall be empowered to appoint a replacement.

## **ARTICLE V - DUTIES AND RESPONSIBILITIES OF COMMITTEE MEMBERS**

### ***Section 1 - Principal Duties***

The principal duties of the Committee are the following:

- a) to manage the affairs and properties of the Society;
- b) to elect Ordinary and Associate Members and propose Honorary Members;
- c) to terminate the membership of any member who does not abide by the rules of the Society or whose conduct brings dishonor to the Society;
- d) to present to the Annual General meeting a report on the activities of the Society during their term of office as well as on unfinished business;
- e) to submit to the Annual General Meeting a full report on the financial state of the Society.

### ***Section 2 - Disbursement of Funds***

The Committee shall have full power to assume any expenses necessary for the proper administration of the affairs of the Society.

The Committee shall be empowered to relieve, in ease of hardship, any member of his/her financial obligations towards the Society.

Any expenses in excess of Baht 50'000 <sup>2</sup> : shall be approved at the Annual General Meeting or at an Extraordinary General Meeting. All activities organized by the Society should, in principle, be self-supporting. However, the Committee may subsidize activities at their discretion.

### ***Section 3 - Deposit of Funds***

The funds of the Society shall be paid into reputable banks or entrusted to reliable, commercial institutions. All cheques drawn on the Society's account shall be signed by the Treasurer plus another member of the committee, or alternatively, by two members of the Committee.

### ***Section 4 - Committee Meetings***

The Committee shall meet at least every second month to consider the affairs of the Society.

### ***Section 5 - Quorum***

Four members of the Committee shall constitute a quorum.

### ***Section 6 - Expulsion and Appeal of Members***

Any member may be suspended or expelled from the Society upon the unanimous vote of the Committee. He/she shall, however, have the right to appeal to the General Meeting and may be reinstated on a two-thirds affirmative vote to be taken by secret ballot.

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<sup>2</sup> Amended at AGM 2003 : Amount changed from 10'000 to 50'000 Baht

## ***Section 7 - Responsibility of Committee Members***

- a) President  
The President shall preside at all General and Committee Meetings, and shall represent the Society at official functions. He/she shall prepare and submit to the General Meeting a report of the Society's activities of the past year.
- b) Vice President  
In the absence of the President, the Vice President shall perform the duties of the President. He/she shall also take charge of all social activities.
- c) Secretary  
The Secretary shall keep records of the Society's membership, attendance, activities and all business. He/she shall be responsible for the Society's correspondence. At each Committee Meeting and General Meeting he/she shall record the minutes.
- d) Treasurer  
The Treasurer shall keep records of the Society's financial status, receive and disburse the Society's money, and present a financial report with an annual balance sheet which shall be audited by an Auditor elected by the General Meeting. He/she shall report quarterly to the committee on overdue accounts.
- e) Committee Members at large  
Their duties shall be defined by the President and shall include such activities as publishing a Newsletter, coordinating sports activities etc.
- f) Absence of presiding Committee Member  
In the absence of both the President and the Vice President, the Committee shall appoint a chairman for the meeting.

## **ARTICLE VI - ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING AND EXTRAORDINARY GENERAL MEETING**

### ***Section 1 - Time and Place***

The Annual General Meeting shall nominally be held in February<sup>3</sup>, but in any case not later than the end of March, each year. Notification of the date should be made by mid-January. Final notice of the time and place of the General Meeting shall be given no later than seven days before the meeting, except in case of emergency.

### ***Section 2 - Agenda***

The agenda at the Annual General Meeting shall be as follows:

- a) Membership count and certification of a quorum.
- b) Appointment of election inspectors.
- c) Proof of the required notice of meeting.
- d) Approval of the minutes of the previous General Meeting.
- e) Reports of the Committee and approval of the annual balance sheet.
- f) Election of the new Committee.
- g) Election of an Auditor, in accordance with the law.
- h) Unfinished and new business.
- i) Miscellaneous.

### ***Section 3 - Voting Rights***

All Ordinary and Honorary Members present at the Annual General meeting shall be entitled to vote. All questions shall be decided by a majority vote, the President casting the deciding vote in case of a tie.

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<sup>3</sup> Amendment of 9th March 2007: Period for AGM changes from January to February

#### ***Section 4 – Quorum***

The presence of one-fifth of all Ordinary Members entitled to vote is required at the Annual General Meeting. If a quorum is not reached, an Extraordinary General Meeting must be convened, to take place not less than 21 days later. The Ordinary Members then present shall form an automatic quorum.

All questions shall be decided by a majority vote, the President having a deciding vote in case of a tie.

#### ***Section 5 - Extraordinary Meetings***

The Committee may, at any time, convene an Extraordinary meeting. Also, in the event that there is a written request signed by no less than one third of the members present in Bangkok, such a meeting will be called. The purpose of the meeting shall be given in the notice of call, and no other matter shall be taken up at such a meeting. Notice of the time and place of the meeting shall be given by the Committee at least three days, but preferably 21 days before the date set for such a meeting, in order to inform the members well in advance.

The same order of business shall be followed as provided for under Article IV, Section 2, except business under d), e), f), g), h), and i). The order of business may be changed by a majority vote of the members present.

### **ARTICLE VII - RULE CHANGES**

No alterations and deletions of or additions to the Rules of the Society shall be made except by a majority of two-thirds of the members present and voting at a General Meeting.

Requests for major changes by members should be presented in writing to the Committee 4 weeks before the date of the General Meeting, thus enabling the Committee to pass on these proposals to the Society Members prior to the meeting.

If no quorum is attained at the meeting, a second General Meeting shall be convened in accordance with Art. VI, Sec. 4.

### **ARTICLE VIII - DISSOLUTION OF THE SOCIETY**

In case of dissolution of the Society a liquidation shall be undertaken to settle the Society's affairs. The property of the Society shall be transferred to a legal representative or to another registered association whose articles of association are similar to the Swiss Society Bangkok. Through the acceptance of these rules certified by the Extraordinary Meeting held on January 30, 1986, the former rules, dated January 18, 1979, are henceforth considered null and void.